DETAILED ACTION

Per Applicant's Request for Continued Examination
Claims 1, 7, 8, 10, 11, 13, 14 and 16 are amended.
Claims 5, 6 are canceled.

Per Examiner's Amendment
Claims 1, 7, 9, 10 and 13 are amended.
Claims 8 and 14 are cancelled.

<u>Claims 1-4, 7, 9-13, 15 and 16 are allowed</u>.

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

I.   A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in

37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is

eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e)

has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to

37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 9/12/2008 has been entered.

Response to Arguments

II.   Applicant's arguments (see Remarks pages 8-9 filed 8/11/2008) with respect to claims 1,

7 and 13 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejections of the pending claims

have therefore been withdrawn.

Examiner's Amendment

III.   An Examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

IV.   Authorization for this Examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Atty. John J. Farrell on December 5, 2008. Please make the following changes:

Claim 1 (amended): A storage-device controlling apparatus in a storage system, comprising:

a file system for receiving a data input/output request on file-name specification basis, and executing the input/output of data with respect to a storage device included in the file system in response to said data input/output request, said data input/output request being transmitted from an information processing apparatus connected to the storage-device controlling apparatus via a network;

a processing device operative to perform steps of:

receiving a proxy request for substitute-executing the download of a file from a Web server on the Internet, said proxy request being transmitted from the information processing apparatus based on HTTP protocol via said network;

establishing a connection with the Internet;

downloading said file from said Web server in response to said proxy request; and

storing said downloaded file into said storage device via said file system and

a processing queue for storing a plurality of proxy requests therein,

wherein said processing device is operative to perform a step of modifying an order of processing of the proxy requests that have been registered in said processing queue,

wherein a <u>first</u> condition for starting a processing for each proxy request is stored on a proxy request basis, processing of the proxy requests being started based on said <u>first</u> condition<u>;</u>

wherein a second condition is stored for determining whether or not to transmit said proxy request to said storage-device controlling apparatus, said second condition being about said file that becomes a target of said download; and

checking whether or not said file satisfies said second condition when there occurs said download request for downloading said file from said Web server,

wherein, if said file does not satisfy said second condition, said proxy request will not be transmitted to said storage-device controlling apparatus.

Claim 7 (amended): An information processing apparatus, comprising:

means for transmitting a proxy request to a storage-device controlling apparatus via a network and based on the HTTP protocol, said storage-device controlling apparatus being connected to said information processing apparatus via said network,

said storage-device controlling apparatus, comprising:

means for establishing a connection with the Internet;

means for accessing a Web server on the Internet;

a file system that, when there occurs a download request for downloading a file from said Web server, receives a data input/output request on file-name specification basis, and executes the input/output of said data with respect to a storage device included in the file system in response to said data input/output request, said proxy request being transmitted from an information processing apparatus;

means for accepting a proxy request for substitute-executing said download of said file from said Web server on the Internet, said proxy request being transmitted from the information processing apparatus based on the HTTP protocol via said network;

means for downloading said file from said Web server in response to said proxy request;

means for storing said downloaded file into said storage device by using said file system;

a processing queue for storing a plurality of proxy requests therein; and

means for modifying an order of processing of the proxy requests that have been registered in said processing queue,

wherein a first condition for starting a processing for each proxy request is stored on a proxy request basis, processing of the proxy requests being started based on said first condition;

means for storing a second condition for determining whether or not to transmit said proxy request to said storage-device controlling apparatus, said second condition being about said file that becomes a target of said download; and

means for checking whether or not said file satisfies said second condition when there occurs said download request for downloading said file from said Web server,

wherein, if said file does not satisfy said second condition, said proxy request will not be transmitted to said storage-device controlling apparatus.

Cancel Claim 8.

In Claim 9: on line 1, replace "claim 8" with—*claim 7.*

In Claim 10: on line 2, replace "claim 8" with—*claim 7.*

Claim 13 (amended): A program executing on an information processing apparatus for allowing said information processing apparatus to implement a function of transmitting a proxy request to a storage-device controlling apparatus via a network and based on the HTTP protocol when there occurs a download request for downloading a file from a Web server on the Internet, said storage-device controlling apparatus being connected to said information processing apparatus via said network,

said storage-device controlling apparatus comprising a file system for receiving a data input/output request on file-name specification basis, and executing the input/output of said data with respect to a storage device included in the file system in response to said data input/output request, said data input/output request being transmitted from an information processing apparatus via a network;

said storage-device controlling apparatus operative to accept said proxy request for substitute-executing said download of said file from said Web server on the Internet, said proxy request being transmitted from the information processing apparatus based on the HTTP protocol via said network;

said storage-device controlling apparatus further operative to establish a connection with the Internet;

said storage-device controlling apparatus further operative to download said file from said Web server in response to said proxy request;

said storage-device controlling apparatus further operative to store said downloaded file into said storage device by using said file system; and

said storage-device controlling apparatus comprising a processing queue for storing a plurality of proxy requests therein,

wherein said storage-device controlling apparatus is further operative to modify an order of processing of the proxy requests that have been registered in said processing queue,

wherein a first condition for starting a processing for each proxy request is stored on a proxy request basis, processing of the proxy requests being started based on said first condition;

wherein said information processing apparatus stores a second condition for determining whether or not to transmit said proxy request to said storage-device controlling apparatus, said second condition being about said file that becomes a target of said download; and

checks whether or not said file satisfies said second condition when there occurs said download request for downloading said file from said Web server;

wherein, if said file does not satisfy said second condition, said proxy request will not be transmitted to said storage-device controlling apparatus.

Cancel Claim 14.

Reasons for Allowance
(The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance)

V.   The prior art or record fails to teach neither singly nor in combination, the claimed limitations of "a processing queue for storing a plurality of proxy requests therein, wherein said processing device is operative to perform a step of modifying an order of processing of the proxy requests that have been registered in said processing queue, wherein a first condition for starting a processing for each proxy request is stored on a proxy request basis, processing of the proxy requests being started based on said first condition; wherein a second condition is stored for determining whether or not to transmit said proxy request to said storage-device controlling

apparatus, said second condition being about said file that becomes a target of said download; and checking whether or not said file satisfies said second condition when there occurs said download request for downloading said file from said Web server, wherein, if said file does not satisfy said second condition, said proxy request will not be transmitted to said storage-device controlling apparatus" as stated in independent Claims 1, 7 and 13 (see Applicant's Specification, pages 12-15).

Specifically, the features of having a first condition for starting a processing for each proxy request is stored on a proxy request basis, processing of the proxy requests being started based on said first condition and storing a second condition for determining whether or not to transmit said proxy request to said storage-device controlling apparatus, said second condition being about said file that becomes a target of said download, are not disclosed or suggested by the prior art.

As discussed in Applicant's Remarks filed 8/11/2008, these limitations, in conjunction with other limitations in the independent and dependent claims, are not explicitly disclosed or taught in the prior art of record. A review of Claims 1-4, 7, 9-13, 15 and 16 in view of the Examiner's remarks above, indicates that Claims 1-4, 7, 9-13, 15 and 16 are allowable over the prior art of record.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

VI. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Kristie Shingles whose telephone number is 571-272-3888. The Examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:30-6:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Rupal Dharia can be reached on 571-272-3880. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Kristie D. Shingles
Examiner
Art Unit 2441

/KDS/

/William C. Vaughn, Jr./

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2444